

**APRIL 28, 2019**

**ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT**

**74-109 Larrea Street  
Palm Desert, California 92260**

**Website: [www.go-stgeorge.org](http://www.go-stgeorge.org)**

**Email: [pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com)**

# THE LADDER

**THE RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD OF CHRIST OUR GOD**



## **Mailing Address:**

**P.O. Box 4755**

**Palm Desert, CA.92261**

**Tel: (760) 568-9901**

**or: (760) 880-5869**

**– Fr. Theodore Pantels,  
Proistamenos (Pastor)**

**– Deacon Euthym Kontaxis,  
M.D.**

## **Holy Communion Order**

1. Please remain standing while following the directions of our ushers.
2. Ladies, kindly remove lipstick before receiving.
3. When receiving Holy Communion, make the Sign of the Cross, state your name (baptismal name), and naturally receive as if being fed.
4. Non-Orthodox Christians may not receive Holy Communion, but they may receive the Holy Bread at the end of the service.
5. *All Orthodox Christians must be spiritually prepared to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please see the priest if you have any questions.*

## **THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

St. Paul's conversion from persecutor of Christ to Apostle of Christ reveals the truth of Christ's Resurrection from the Dead. Also, it verifies in fact that He is the Light of the world.

Liturgically, this reality is proclaimed as the priest passes through the Royal Gate of the Altar and imparts the Paschal Light to the faithful, lighting their candles as the hymn is chanted: "*Come receive the Light from the Unwaning Light and glorify Christ Who is Risen from the dead.*" Through the action of the priest in imparting this Light to the faithful

and, through this simple hymn, our Church seeks to draw Her people into the *experience* of Christ's Resurrection from the dead. Indeed, the *living and personal experience* of Christ's Resurrection serves to convert a person to the fullness of the truth. This is very evident in the life of St. Paul and it is St. John Chrysostom who makes note of this.

In his "Homily 19: On the Acts of the Apostles," St. John comments on the conversion of St. Paul, from being the great persecutor of Christians, known to all at the time as

*Continued on page 2*

## **THE GOSPEL PASSAGE FOR THE SERVICE OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST**

"When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back – it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid."

--St. Mark 16: 1-8



Η μετατροπή του Αγ. Παύλου από το να είναι διωγμός του Χριστού στο να είναι Απόστολος του Χριστού αποκαλύπτει την αλήθειαν της Αναστάσεως εκ των νεκρών του Χριστού. Επίσης, διαπιστώνει το γεγονός ότι ο Χριστός είναι το Φως του κόσμου.

Απο λειτουργικήν άποψη, αυτή η πραγματικότητα ανακηρύσσεται καθώς ο ιερέυς περνά από την Ωρᾶϊαν Πύλην και μεταδίδει το Φως του Πάσχα, φωτίζοντας τα κεριά των πιστών καθώς ψάλλει: <Δεύτε λάβετε Φῶς ἐκ τοῦ ἀνεσπέρου φωτός καί δοξάσατε Χριστόν τόν Ἀναστάντα ἐκ νεκρῶν.> Διά μέσου αυτής της δράσεως του ιερέως και αυτού του απλού ύμνου, η Εκκλησία μας επιδιώκει να προσελκήσει τους πιστούς της στην εμπειρίαν της Αναστάσεως. Μάλιστα, η προσωπική και ζωντανή εμπειρία της Αναστάσεως του Χριστού επιτρέπει την μετατροπήν του ανθρώπου προς την πληρότητα της αληθείας. Αυτό είναι πολύ εμφανές στην ζωήν του Απ. Παύλου (Πραξ. 9: 3-9), και ο Αγ. Ιωάννης ο Χρυσόστομος το σημειώνει, λέγοντας: <Τώρα ο Άγιος Παύλος (ο πρώην Σαούλ) μετατρέπεται και είναι πεπεισμένος περί της Αναστάσεως του Χριστού> Και ποιός τον έπεισε – μάλιστα, όχι μόνον τον έπεισε – αλλά αμέσως τον ενέπνευσε μέχρι σημείον που αναζητούσε τον Αναστημένον Χριστόν; Και πως έτσι που τόσο ήθελε να πάει στην κόλασην ακόμη για να δοξάσει τον Χριστόν; Η αλήθεια περί της Αναστάσεως είναι φανερή. (Η Πλήρης Συλλογή Ομιλιών του Αγίου Ιωάννου του Χρυσοστόμου. Toronto, Canada, σελ. 1666). Ας δοξάσουμε και εμείς τον Αναστημένον Χριστόν ακολουθώντας το παράδειγμα του Αγίου Παύλου.

+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

Saul, to becoming St. Paul, an Apostle of Christ. His conversion event is recorded in the Book of Acts (9: 3-9): "As he [St. Paul, formerly known as Saul,] journeyed he came near Damascus and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. Then he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?' And he said, 'Who are You, Lord?' Then the Lord said, 'I am Jesus, Whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' So he, trembling and astonished, said, 'Lord, what do You want me to do?'"

St. John's words are sharp and clear: "Here is a man [Saul, who later became known as St. Paul], who is so frantic as even to shed blood and cast men into prison, who now all at once he believes! It was not enough that he had never been in Christ's company. He had been warring against the believers with vehement hostility: he left to none the possibility of going beyond him in fury: none of them could be so violent. But when he was blinded [having fallen to the ground] then he saw the proofs of Christ's Sovereignty and loving kindness: then, he answered, saying, 'Lord what do you want me to do? [This man] would not have been changed had this not happened so that all would be bound to believe...He had no intercourse with any of the believers; it was at Damascus that he was converted, or rather before he came to Damascus that this happened to him...[And now, converted and convinced of the Resurrection of Christ], Who convinced him – and not only convinced, but all at once inspired him to such ardent zeal for the Risen Christ? Wherefore was it that he wished even to go to hell itself for Christ's sake? The truth of these facts is manifest." (Complete Works of St. John Chrysostom, publ. in Toronto, Canada, pg. 1666).

The Risen Christ is indeed the Light of the world and He continues to speak to all of us. Can each of us now, like St. Paul, ask Him in prayer, saying, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" We can begin by glorifying Christ through worship and by living a life-style of Christ-like love and forgiveness, in imitation of St. Paul. Our Church gives us the words for us to loudly sing with joy: "It is the Day of the Resurrection, let us be resplendent in this Festival. Let us embrace one another and even those who do not love us, saying, 'All is forgiven in the Resurrection.' And we exclaim [to all the world]: Christ is Risen from the dead, by death trampling upon death and to those in the tombs, bestowing life." (Doxastikon of Pascha).

+FR. THEODORE

"To the Apostles did Jesus present Himself alive after His passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them He charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, He said, 'you heard from Me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'"

– Acts: 1: 2-6

**HYMNS FOR THIS SUNDAY'S CELEBRATION OF THE DIVINE LITURGY:**

**ANTIPHON I: "Tes presvies tis Theotokou..." (By the prayers of the Theotokos...)**

**Verse 1—Sing now to His name; give glory to His praise. Sing now to His name; give glory to His praise.**

**Refrain: "Tes presvies tis Theotokou, Soter, soson imas."**

**Verse 2—Say to God, "How fearful are Your works; in the greatness of Your power Your enemies will lie to You."**

**Refrain: "By the prayers of the Theotokos, Savior, save us."**

**Verse 3—Let all the earth worship You and sing to You; let them sing to Your name.**

**Refrain: "Tes presvies tis Theotokou, Soter, soson imas."**

**Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages**

**Refrain: "By the prayers of the Theotokos, Savior, save us."**

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**ANTIPHON II: "Soson imas Ie Theou..." (Save us, O Son of God...)**

**Verse -1 —May God be gracious to us, and bless us; may He cause His face to shine upon us. That we may know His way on the earth, Your salvation among all the Gentiles.**

**Refrain: "Soson imas Yie Theou, O Anastas ek nekron, psallontas Si, alleluia."**

**Verse 2—Let the peoples give thanks to You, O God; let all the peoples praise You.**

**Refrain: "Save us, O Son of God, Who arose from the dead, we sing to You, Alleluia."**

**Verse 3—May God bless us, and let all the ends of the earth be in fear of Him.**

**Refrain: "Soson imas Yie Theou, O Anastas ek nekron, psallontas Si, alleluia."**

**Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

**People: "O Monogenis Ios ke Logos tou Theou..." (O Only-Begotten Son and Word of God...)**

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**HYMNS FOR THE ENTRANCE WITH THE HOLY GOSPEL: ANTIPHON III**

*Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from before His face. As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire. So shall the sinners perish from the face of God. And let the righteous be glad. This is the day the Lord made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein.*

**Hymn with the Entrance with the Holy Gospel: Christos Anesti...** (Christ is Risen from the dead; by death trampling down death and, to those in the tombs, He has bestowed life.) [Hymn for the Resurrection of Christ from the dead.]

**Instead of "Defte proskinisomen,"** :En Ekklisias evlogheete ton Theon Kyrion ek pighon Israel...o Anastas ek nekron

**Hymns after the Entrance with the Holy Gospel, Repeat the Hymn, Christos Anesti.**

**Prolavouse ton orthron...** (They who were with Mary came before dawn and finding the stone rolled away from the tomb, they heard the angel say: 'Why do you seek the Living among the dead, Who dwells in the eternal Light? Behold, the grave clothes. Go in haste and declare to the world that the Lord is risen and has caused death to die; for He is the Son of God, the Savior of all humanity.)

**Kontakion Hymn: Ei ke en tafo katilthes...** (Through You, the deathless One, descended into the grave, You destroyed the power of Hades and, as Victor, You arose again, O Christ our God. You greeted the Myrrh-bearing Women, saying, 'Rejoice!' You did bestow peace upon Your Disciples and Resurrection upon the fallen.)

**Instead of "Aghios o Theos:" "Osi eis Christon evaptistite, Christon enedhisasthe, Alleluia."** (As many as have been baptized unto Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.)

**READINGS: Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 / Gospel: St. John 1:1-17**

**The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is celebrated**

**Instead of "Axion Estin", "O Angelos evoh-a Keharitomeni..."** (The Angel spoke to Her, Who is filled with grace, saying, O pure Virgin, rejoice. And I say again: rejoice; for Your son is risen from the tomb on the third day. Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem. For the glory of the Lord has risen upon You. Rejoice and be glad, O Zion, and You, O pure Theotokos, exalt in the Resurrection of Him, Whom You did bear.)

**Communion Hymn: "Soma Christou..."** (Receive the Body of Christ and taste Him, Who is the Fountain of Immortality. Alleluia.)



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**CHRISTOS ANESTI! CHRIST IS RISEN!**

**PHILOPTOCHOS** - It's not too late to make reservations for the Agape Celebration of Love luncheon on **Sunday, May 5 at 2:00 p.m. at the Newport Beach Country Club**. This event is to raise money for the **Kids 'n' Cancer Ministry**. Information is on the coffee bar in the hall. Thank you for supporting Philoptochos' Easter Bake Sale. We have a few loaves remaining for purchase. We need Coffee Hour hosts and sponsors for May and June. See **Pat Dalkas**. Our last **General Meeting for the season will be on Monday, May 13 at 11:30 a.m. at Desert Willow Golf Resort**. We will be sitting on The Terrace giving us a great view. We need you to reserve your seat. Call Rhonda Latkovic or Emily Tcharos for reservations.

**ALTAR FLOWER BOUQUETS – The following is the contribution and dedication for the Altar Flowers (both bouquets) lovingly donated for the glory of God:**

*–Matushka Gloria Lehman: Dedication is " To all who have passed on, and may their memories be Eternal". Happy Easter!, and may God truly bless you!*

**GOLF TOURNAMENT-** Time is running out to register and/or make reservations to participate in this year's St. George Golf Tournament and Tournament Awards Dinner, which is scheduled for May 4th at Desert Falls Country Club: Registration: 11:00 a.m./ Tee-off: 12 noon. Dinner: 6:00 p.m. at our parish hall. See the enclosed registration and reservation Golf Tournament form.

**AHEPA –** Wednesday's AHEPA Chapter 528 meeting will be held at our parish hall at 6:30 p.m. Please note the attached appeal for support for the AHEPA 528 Fr. T. P. Theophilos Memorial Scholarship Fund.

**WEEKDAY SCHEDULE**

- Today, April 28th.....Agape Vespers - 4:00 p.m.
- Monday, April 29th.....ST. GEORGE THE GREAT MARTYR  
Orthros-8:30 a.m. / Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, April 30th.....Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, May 1st.....AHEPA Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 2nd.....Choir Practice - 1:00 p.m.
- Friday, May 3rd.....THE LIFE-GIVING FONT  
Orthros-8:30 a.m. / Divine Liturgy- 9:30 a.m.
- Saturday, May 4th.....ST. GEORGE GOLF TOURNAMENT - Desert Falls Country Club  
Registration-11:00 a.m.  
Tee-off-12 noon  
Awards Dinner (at St. George parish hall)- 6:00 p.m.

*The Ladder for April 2019 is lovingly sponsored by:  
Matushka Gloria Lehman*

We encourage all of our parents to sit in the church with their entire family as they participate in the beauty and mysteries of the Divine Liturgy. For those with young children, feel free to sit near an aisle so that you may easily take your children for a break, as needed. If necessary, we have a "crying room" in the narthex for your use. God Bless.

# SAVE THE DATE!

Monday, May 13th at 11:30 AM

*The Terrace*  
at Desert Willow Golf Resort



Desert  
Willow

Golf Resort

Firecliff & Mountain View

*One Legendary Location Two  
Unforgettable Courses*

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38-995 Desert Willow Drive

Palm Desert, CA 92260

Our last Philoptochos general members meeting before the summer break. More info to follow.

# AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

## ***AHEPA Chapter 528 Scholarship Contribution Request***

We, the members of AHEPA 528 are so proud and amazed at the quality of our annual Scholarship Applicants. In the last 5 years, two of the local High School Valedictorians came from our little church. Several students were Top Ten scholars of the valley. Some had an incredible 4.6 to 5.2 GPA's. Our kids are attending prestigious Universities across the nation, from Dartmouth to Stanford to USC to USD. Others are representing the home state, California and attending top-notch state schools such as UCLA, UC Berkeley, and UC Santa Barbara. Several graduated High School with a year or two, of college, completed. Three are in graduate studies. That's the caliber of applicants we're so very proud of at St. George.

AHEPA 528 is proudly in its 14th year of offering scholarships to students from the St. George and Ahepa 528 community of Palm Desert. Our educational program started with the guidance and inspiration of Fr. T.P. Theophilos Theophilos. To date it has provided over \$39,500 to over three dozen recipients, including STEM majors, and Grad students.

Currently, we need your support. Our biggest annual fundraiser, the Palm Desert Greek Festival did not meet our 2019 fundraising goals. We ask that you consider making a donation, to this worthy cause for our own community's children and the future. Your donation will help fund the Fr. T. P. Theophilos Memorial Scholarship program and our newest award, the George Tcharos Memorial Scholarship. We truly appreciate those who donate by monthly subscription and encourage others to participate, for as little as a \$ 25-month commitment. Please, contact me for details.

AHEPA Sunday is on May 19th. I invite everyone to be present when we award, at least two scholarships as we are using reserves this year. With your generous donations, we may be able to provide three or four students, with funding as we usually do. Please, show these incredible students how proud and supportive their community is of their hard work and dedication to academic excellence. After all, they are the future.

**In Christ,**

**Wynn Storton**  
**Scholarship Committee Chair**  
**Chapter 528 President**  
**Supreme Governor Region #8**

*MEETINGS 1st Wednesday of every month at  
Saint George Church, Palm Desert  
Unless otherwise notified*

All checks payable to:  
AHEPA CHAPTER 528  
PO Box 1735 Palm Desert, CA 92261-1735

Or online: <https://ahepa528.org/scholarship.htm>

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**AHEPA Chapter 528**

Website: [Ahepa528.org](http://Ahepa528.org) , [contact@ahepa528.org](mailto:contact@ahepa528.org)



# ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

## ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY • MAY 4 • 2019

### EVENT REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company (Organization) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

PLAYER NAME(S)	INDEX
1 _____	_____
2 _____	_____
3 _____	_____
4 _____	_____

#### PAYMENT INFORMATION

Individual Player(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (# of players) x \$175 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tee Sponsorship (s) \_\_\_\_\_ (# of sponsorships) x \$100 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Traditional Greek Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ (# of dinners) x \$35 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

**Registration deadline:**

Friday, April 26, 2019

**Pay by credit card or make checks payable to:**

St. George Greek Orthodox Church

**Send check and registration form to:**

PO Box 4755 Palm Desert, CA 92261

## EVENT REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company (Organization) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### PLAYER NAME(S)

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1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

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